

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ZAIRE IN THE U.S. MEDIA

EDITORIAL "D-DAY PLUS 34" IN NEW YORK TIMES OF JUNE 7
IS EXCERPTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION: (BY JAMES RESTON)

QUOTE: ON THE 34TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALLIED INVASION OF
NAZI-OCCUPIED EUROPE, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES,
BRITAIN, FRANCE, BELGIUM AND WEST GERMANY MET IN PARIS
THIS WEEK TO CONSIDER WHAT THEY COULD DO ABOUT THE COMMU-
NIST ACTIVITY IN AFRICA.

THEY DIDN'T DO VERY MUCH. IN FACT, THEY DISAPPOINTED
BOTH THE PEOPLE WHO WANTED THEM TO CONFRONT THE SOVIETS
AND CUBANS IN AFRICA, AND THE PEOPLE WHO WANTED THEM TO
STAY OUT OF ALL THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL TANGLES THERE.
BUT AT LEAST, THEY DID SOMETHING THAT MAY BE SYMBOLICALLY
IMPORTANT.

THE ALLIES ARE STRIKING A FAIRLY GOOD BALANCE IN DEALING
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WITH THESE PROBLEMS IN AFRICA. THEY HAVE NOT MADE THE
MISTAKE OF TREATING ALL NATIONS ALIKE. THEY HAVE DEFENDED
THE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, WITHOUT DE-
CLARING ECONOMIC WARFARE ON SOUTH AFRICA. THEY PUT TOGE-

THER A COMBINATION OF UNITED STATES AIR POWER AND EUROPEAN
MANPOWER TO CHASE THE INVADERS OUT OF ZAIRE. THEY WARNED

THE SOVIETS NOT TO OVERPLAY THEIR HAND IN AFRICA, WITHOUT CONFUSING THE CONFLICTS ON THE CONTINENT WITH THE LARGER AND MORE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF ARMS CONTROL.

THIS MODERATE APPROACH TO A HIGHLY COMPLICATED AND AMBIGUOUS SET OF WORLD PROBLEMS HAS CREATED DIFFICULT POLITICAL ANXIETIES FOR PRESIDENT CARTER. HE HAS BEEN TALKING TOUGH TO MOSCOW, AND SENT ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI TO PEKING TO REMIND THE SOVIETS THAT HE CAN PLAY THE CHINA CARD IF NECESSARY, BUT HE HAS BEEN ACTING VERY CAUTIOUSLY.

HE IS NEITHER JUMPING INTO ZAIRE NOR IGNORING IT. HE IS NOT BREAKING RELATIONS WITH CUBA, THOUGH HE PROBABLY WILL IN THE NEAR FUTURE; BUT IN CONSULTATION WITH HIS EUROPEAN ALLIES, HE IS HELPING TO ESTABLISH, FINANCE AND TRANSPORT A BLACK AFRICAN LEGION TO COUNTER MOSCOW'S CUBAN MERCENARIES.

SELDOM SINCE THE ALLIES LANDED IN NORMANDY 34 YEARS AGO HAVE THEY BEEN CONFRONTED BY MORE DIFFICULT AND SUBTLE PROBLEMS THAN THEY NOW FACE IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE TRAGEDY OF THESE 34 YEARS, NOW BEING REPEATED ON THE PERIPHERY OF WORLD AFFAIRS IN ZAIRE AND OTHER COUNTRIES WITH NEW NAMES AND ANCIENT RACIAL AND TRIBAL ENMITIES, IS THAT THE VICTORIOUS ALLIES WERE NOT ABLE TO AGREE ON A UNCLASSIFIED

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NEW AND DECENT WORLD ORDER.

WHAT IS SURPRISING ABOUT ALL THIS IS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS BEING BLAMED FOR BEING INCONSISTENT....

....THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AFTER D-DAY, HE IS TIPTOEING THROUGH A MINEFIELD, AND THE GUESS HERE IS THAT IN SPITE OF ALL THE CRITICISM, HE IS DOING IT FAIRLY WELL. UNQUOTE. VANCE

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